



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA CONTACT: Mica Perry, Communications Division Director
PHONE: 317-232-1292
EMAIL: mperry@cji.in.gov

MEDIA CONTACT: Rachel Meyer, Communications Manager
PHONE: 317-232-7610
EMAIL: rmeyer@cji.in.gov

Indiana Increased Patrols to Enforce Impaired Driving Laws

[Indianapolis, Indiana] October 4, 2006 - Thousands of Hoosiers took to the roadways during Labor Day weekend. Law enforcement across the state participated in an Impaired Driving Crackdown from August 16 – September 4. Over 200 law enforcement agencies participated and issued more than 12,000 citations for impaired driving and other crimes across the state.

"Drunk Driving. Over The Limit. Under Arrest." is a comprehensive impaired driving prevention program organized by the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) that focuses on combining high-visibility enforcement with heightened public awareness through advertising and publicity.

"Our overall goal is to make the roads safer for everyone to travel," said Carl Brizzi, Marion County Prosecutor. "This campaign was successful because we sent a strong message to the community that impaired driving is illegal and will not be tolerated under any circumstances."

Law enforcement agencies used saturation patrols and sobriety checkpoints to prevent unnecessary tragedies that result from impaired driving. More than 1,000 impaired drivers were arrested during the crackdown and removed from Indiana's roadways.

"Officers all over the state of Indiana should be commended for all of the hard work and hours of overtime they put into removing impaired drivers from the roadways - by placing drivers who were over the limit, under arrest," said Mike Cunegin, executive director of the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute.

“Impaired driving is not a victimless crime,” said Dan Jeffries, Traffic Safety division director of the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute.

The “*Drunk Driving. Over The Limit. Under Arrest.*” campaign was sponsored by the Governor’s Council on Impaired & Dangerous Driving, a division of the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute. Federal funding for the initiative was provided by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

The Governor's Council on Impaired & Dangerous Driving serves as the public opinion catalyst and the implementing body for statewide action to reduce death and injury on Indiana roadways. The Council provides grant funding, training, coordination and ongoing support to state and local traffic safety advocates.